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## THE POET'S MISSION.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

It may be glorious to write  
Thoughts that shall glad the two or three  
High souls, like those far stars that come in sight  
Once in a century;

But better far it is to speak  
One simple word which now and then  
Shall waken their free nature in the weak  
And friendless sons of men;

To write some earnest verse or line,  
Which, seeking not the praise of art,  
Shall make a clearer faith and manhood shine  
In the untutored heart.

He who doth this, in verse or prose,  
May be forgotten in his day,  
But surely shall be crowned at last with those  
Who live and speak for aye.

## PEACE NOTES IN BOSTON.

PROF. G. W. HOSS OF KANSAS.

I met one man with whom I was greatly pleased and in whose work I feel a deep interest. This man is Rev. R. B. Howard, Secretary of the American Peace Society. He is a Congregational minister; a man of fine presence, a large brain, an intellectual forehead and a beneficent looking face which says, "peace and good will to men." He is a brother of the celebrated General O. O. Howard who showed the same traits of good will while at the head of the Freedmen's Bureau. How delightful to meet mature, strong men devoted to the great work of peace.

Pursuing this peace thought farther, Boston is famous in this field. Charles Sumner gave her fame in 1845, when he delivered his celebrated Fourth of July oration entitled "The True Grandeur of Nations." This oration, as many of your readers will remember, was a masterly plea for peace vs. war.

Boston publishes the *Advocate*, a peace journal. Josiah Quincy, Esq., delivered a masterly plea for peace, this year on the Fourth of July, since published by The American Peace Society. Without giving other proofs, I think enough has been given to show Boston's noble position in this field of work.

Passing down Beacon street the other day I saw the pleasing and expressive words on a door, "Office of the State Bureau of Arbitration and Conciliation." "Good," said I, "that means peace—arbitration instead of strikes, quarrels, courts, costs, etc." As many good things as Kansas has, I believe she has not such a board. I hope she may have soon.—*Western Methodist, Wichita, Kansas.*

## CATHOLIC TESTIMONY.

The London *Chronicle* says that Cardinal Manning, in an interview with Mr. Mills, a delegate to the Trade's Union Congress, expressed the conviction that nothing would so help international peace and universal brotherhood as world's Congresses. "No subject, after the way of eternal life, is in my judgment," said the cardinal, "more vital than the welfare of the world's labor." It is expected that Cardinal Manning will prepare a paper for the Chicago Labor Congress.

## JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

1819-1891.

Thou shouldst have sung the swan-song for the choir  
That filled our groves with music till the day  
Lit the last hilltop with its reddening fire,  
And evening listened for thy lingering lay.

But thou hast found thy voice in realms afar  
Where strains celestial blend their notes with thine;  
Some cloudless sphere beneath a happier star  
Welcomes the bright winged spirit we resign.

\* \* \* \* \*

This singer whom we long have held so dear  
Was Nature's darling, shapely, strong and fair;  
Of keenest wit, of judgment crystal-clear,  
Easy of converse, courteous, debonair.

Fit for the loftiest or the lowliest lot,  
Self poised, imperial, yet of simplest ways;  
At home alike in castle or in cot,  
True to his aim, let others blame or praise.

Freedom he found an heirloom from his sires;  
Song, letters, statecraft, shared his years in turn;  
All went to feed the nation's altar fires  
Whose mourning children wreathe his funeral urn.

He loved New England—people, language, soil,  
Unweaned by exile from her arid breast.  
Farewell awhile, white-handed son of toil,  
Go with her brown-armed laborers to thy rest.

Peace to thy slumber in the forest shade!  
Poet and patriot, every gift was thine;  
Thy name shall live while summers bloom and fade,  
And grateful Memory guard thy leafy shrine!

## TWO NATIONS, ONE PEOPLE.

We recall with pleasure the fact that when the late Mr. James Russell Lowell was about leaving England in the spring of 1885 after having been for some years the American Minister at the Court of St. James', he was presented with an Address by the International Arbitration League, then known as the Workman's Peace Association, in which he was congratulated on having been in a very real and true sense the ambassador of the people of the United States to the people of the United Kingdom. The address further expressed a desire that a treaty of arbitration between the two nations should be concluded.

Mr. Lowell, in his reply to the deputation which presented the address, said that he had never been more profoundly touched than by the deputation which had waited upon him. The address itself, which was designed and illuminated in a most artistic manner by Mr. Knight, a member of the League council, was highly valued by the distinguished poet and publicist to whom it was presented; so much so, that when he left England he took care to pack it with his own hands.—*Arbitrator.*

Italy is rendering an incalculable service to civilization by her diffusion of the Peace idea.—*Henry Richard at Milan in 1873.*

The unity of each nation strengthens the world's confederation.